

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-97 are pending in the application. The Examiner has allowed claims 29-43, 48-64, 96, and 97. The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, 8, 10-28, 44-47, 65, 66, and 74-95. The Examiner has objected to claims 3-7, 9, and 67-73.

Objection to the Drawing

The Examiner objects to the drawing stating that the drawing does not include a "FIGURE 8" as disclosed at page 11, line 16. Applicant notes that the specification at page 11, line 16 states "Turning to FIGURE 8". This phrase was merely intended to be a transitional phrase to collectively refer to FIGURES 8A through 8D. Accordingly, Applicant has amended the specification at page 11, lines 16 to replace "Turning to FIGURE 8" with --Turning to FIGURES 8A, 8B, 8C and 8D--. The amendment is supported by the specification, because FIGURES 8A through 8D are described in the BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING section at page 6. No new matter has been added. Applicant respectfully submits that the amendment addresses the Examiner's objection and an amendment of the drawing is not required. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection.

Objection to the Disclosure

The Examiner objects to the specification for lacking an explicit reference to the reference legends: 101 of FIGURE 1; 50 and 53 of FIGURE 5; 608 of FIGURE 6; 701 of FIGURE 7B; and 702 of FIGURE 7C.

Applicant has amended page 7, line 10 to replace "102, 103, and 104" with --101, 102, 103, and 104--.

Applicant has amended page 9, line 7 to include --system 50 of-- before "FIGURE 5".

Applicant has amended page 9, line 15 by replacing "go, via display 54" with --go via display 53--.

Applicant has further amended page 9, line 6-7 by replacing "is okay to go," with --is okay to go 54,--.

Applicant has further amended page 9, line 15 by replacing "the ticket is not valid, via display 53" with --the ticket is not valid 55, via display 53".

Applicant has amended page 10, line 22 to replace "central processor" with --central processor 608--.

Applicant has amended page 11, line 13 to replace "FIGURE 7B" with --Blank stock 701 of FIGURE 7B--.

Applicant has amended page 11, line 13 to replace "FIGURE 7C" with --blank stock 702 of FIGURE 7C--.

The Examiner has objected to the specification for failing to explicitly reference how the program proceeds after boxes 605, 609, and 610 of FIGURE 6.

Applicant has amended page 10, line 16 to include the sentence --If the key is not valid, the transaction is stopped by proceeding to box 55.-- after "if it is a valid key."

Applicant has amended page 10, line 21 to include the sentences --If the ticket (receipt) being presented is not within the expected parameters, the transaction is stopped by proceeding to box 55. If the ticket (receipt) being presented is within the expected parameters, the transaction continues to box 610.-- after "this receipt box 609."

Applicant has amended page 10, line 26 to include the sentences --If the bearer may board, the transaction proceeds to box 54. If not, the transaction is stopped via box 55.-- after "a prior arranged commercial transaction."

The Examiner objects to the specification noting that, on page 7, line 10, "102, 103, 104," should be --101, 102, 103, and 104--. As seen above, Applicant has made the amendment suggested by the Examiner.

The Examiner further notes that "16" at page 7, line 16 should be --12--. Applicant has made the amendment suggested by the Examiner.

The Examiner notes that "Turning to FIGURE 8" on page 11, line 16 should be --Turning to FIGURES 8A, 8B, 8C and 8D--. As noted above, Applicant has made the amendment as suggested by the Examiner.

The Examiner notes that "FIGURES 8A and 8B" on page 11, line 20 should be --FIGURES 8A, 8B, 8C and 8D--. Applicant has made the amendment as suggested by the Examiner.

The Examiner further notes that the specification does not reference FIGURES 8C and 8D. Applicant has amended the specification to include reference to FIGURES 8C and 8D (see previous paragraph).

The Examiner further notes that claim 14 "lacks antecedent basis within the specification as required by 37 CFR § 1.75(d1)[sic]." Applicant notes that claim 14 has been canceled without prejudice.

As Applicant has addressed each and every objection presented by the Examiner, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection to the disclosure.

Applicant has also made other amendments to correct minor typographical errors. Applicant has replaced "21would" with --21 would-- on page 10, line 6. Applicant has also replaced "indica" with --indicia-- on page 10, line 14.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraphs

The Examiner has rejected claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraphs. Applicant notes that claim 14 has been canceled without prejudice. Accordingly, the rejection of claim 14 is now moot.

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Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1, 2, 8, 10-28, 44-47, 65, 66, and 74-95 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 4,108,364 to Tanaka et al. (hereinafter Tanaka); U.S. Patent No. 5,432,506 to Chapman (hereinafter Chapman); U.S. Patent No 5,598,447 to Berson (hereinafter Berson); PCT Publication WO 97/14482 (hereinafter Royer); and the "Dataproducts awarded Industrial Design excellence commendation for ATB printer" article from Business Editors (hereinafter Business Editors).

Claims 1, 2, 8, 10-28, 44-47, 65, 66, and 74-95 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,170,744 to Lee et al. (hereinafter Lee).

Claims 1, 2, 8, 10-28, 44-47, 65, 66, and 74-95 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by European Patent Specification No. EP 0 699 327 B1 (hereinafter Fouracres).

The Examiner has objected to claims 3-7, 9, and 67-73 stating that claims 3-7, 9, and 67-73 comprise allowable subject matter while being dependent from rejected independent claims.

Applicant has amended claim 1 to include the limitations previously set forth in claims 2 and 3. Claims 2 and 3 have been canceled without prejudice. Since independent claim 1 now comprises subject matter which the Examiner states is allowable, claim 1 is now allowable. Claims 4-9 depend from claim 1 and, hence, inherit all limitations of claim 1. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 4-9 are also allowable.

Applicant has amended claim 65 to include the limitations previously set forth in claims 66 and 67. Claims 66 and 67 have been canceled without prejudice. Since independent claim 65 now comprises subject matter which the Examiner states is allowable, claim 65 is now allowable. Claims 68-76 depend from claim 65 and, hence, inherit all limitations of claim 65. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 68-76 are also allowable.

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The remaining rejected claims (10-28, 44-47, and 77-95) have been canceled without prejudice. Accordingly, their rejection is now moot.

New Claims

Applicant has added new claims 98-127 including independent claims 98, 105, 112, and 120. Claims 98-127 are supported by the specification. No new matter has been added.

Independent claim 98 recites, in part:

- receiving said unique identifier, wherein said unique identifier comprises an encryption key;...
- encrypting at least a portion of said transaction information utilizing said encryption key; and
- communicating said transaction information including said encrypted portion to cause said transaction information to be printed on said stock.

Independent claim 105 recites, in part:

- means for receiving said unique identifier, wherein said unique identifier comprises an encryption key;...
- means for encrypting at least a portion of said transaction information utilizing said encryption key; and
- means for communicating said transaction information including said encrypted portion to cause said transaction information to be printed on said stock.

Independent claim 112 recites, in part:

- decoding a first indicia, that was pre-printed on said stock before creation of said document, to determine a unique code, wherein said unique code includes an encryption key;...
- decrypting said encrypted authentication information in accordance with said encryption key; and
- selectively permitting a consumer to complete a commercial transaction in accordance with said authentication information.

Independent claim 120 recites, in part:

means for decoding a first indicia, that was pre-printed on said stock before creation of said document, to determine a unique code, wherein said unique code includes an encryption key;...

means for decrypting said encrypted authentication information in accordance with said encryption key; and

means for presenting said authentication information to a gatekeeper to allow said gatekeeper to selectively permit completion of a commercial transaction by a consumer.

The Examiner states that the prior art does not teach or suggest "...unique receipt data that includes encrypted validation information and the decryption key used for decrypting validation information where the decryption key is associated with the unique receipt media." Office Action, page 5. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 98, 105, 112, and 120 are allowable for comprising at least the preceding limitations. Claims 99-104, 106-111, 113-119, 121-127 respectively depend from independent claims 98, 105, 112, and 120, and, hence, inherit all limitations of their respective independent claim. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 99-104, 106-111, 113-119, 121-127 are also allowable.


Conclusion

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

Also, attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned **“Version with markings to show changes made.”**

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Respectfully submitted,

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